

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Previously Presented) A method for a client computer to find a network address of a password server computer having a public key, the method comprising:

searching for a network address of the server computer using a backup search procedure if the address of the server computer cannot be identified using a primary search procedure; and

establishing a connection with the server computer using the network address found,

wherein:

the public key is an identifier of the server computer,

the public key identifies a plurality of server computers having different network addresses, and

the backup search procedure searches for the server computer using the public key to identify the server computer.

2-11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising authenticating the server computer after the connection has been established.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising populating a local storage of the client computer with a list of network addresses for server computers after the connection has been established.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the primary and backup search procedures are performed in parallel.

17. (Previously Presented) A system for locating a network address of a password server computer having a public key, the system comprising:

a client computer configured to:

search for a network address of the server computer using a backup search procedure if the address of the server computer cannot be identified using a primary search procedure; and

establish a connection with the server computer using the network address found,

wherein:

the public key is an identifier of the server computer,

the public key identifies a plurality of server computers having different network addresses, and

the backup search procedure searches for the server computer using the public key to identify the server computer.

18-26. (Cancelled)

27. (Previously presented) The system of claim 17, wherein the client computer is configured to perform the primary and backup search procedures in parallel.

28. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable data storage device containing a program with instructions that, when executed by a processor, perform a method for a client computer to find a network address of a password server computer having a public key, the method comprising:

searching for a network address of a server computer using a backup search procedure if the address of the server computer cannot be identified by the client computer using a primary search procedure; and

establishing a connection between the client computer and the server computer using the network address,

wherein:

the public key is an identifier of the server computer,

the public key identifies a plurality of server computers having different network addresses, and

the backup search procedure searches for the server computer using the public key to identify the server computer.

29-38. (Cancelled)

39. (Previously presented) The computer-readable data storage device of claim 28, further comprising instructions for authenticating the server computer after the connection has been established.

40. (Cancelled)

41. (Previously presented) The computer-readable data storage device of claim 28, further comprising instructions for populating a local storage of the client computer with a list of network addresses for server computers after the connection has been established.

42. (Cancelled)

43. (Previously presented) The computer-readable data storage device of claim 28, wherein the primary and backup search procedures are performed in parallel.

44. (Currently Amended) A method for a client computer to locate a network address of a server computer on a computer network, said server computer having a public key that is an identifier of the server computer, the method comprising:

searching for the address of the server computer in a local system storage of the client computer; and

performing a backup search procedure if the address is not found in the local system storage, the backup search procedure being selected from a group of search procedures consisting of ~~including~~ the following:

- broadcasting a message over the network to identify the address of the server computer,

- searching an authentication record for the address of the server computer,

- using a loop back address,

- using a inter process communication to determine whether the server computer is running on a same CPU as the client computer in order to determine the network address, and

- searching a configuration record of the client computer for the address of the server computer; and

establishing a connection with the server computer using the network address found,

wherein:

- one or more of said search procedures searches for the server computer using the public key to identify the server computer, and

- the public key identifies a plurality of server computers having different network addresses.

47. (Previously presented) The method of claim 44, wherein the backup search procedure is performed in parallel with searching the local system storage of the client.

48. (Currently Amended) A system for finding a network address, the system comprising:

server means having a network address and a public key, the public key being an identifier of the server means; and

client means for:

searching for the network address of the server means by searching for the address of the server means in a local system storage of the client means,

using a backup search procedure to identify the address of the server means if the address is not found in the local system storage, and

establishing a connection with the server means using the network address found,

wherein the client means is configured to search for the network address as the backup search, the backup procedure being selected from a group of search procedures consisting of ~~including~~ the following:

broadcast a message over the network to find the address of the server means,

search an authentication record for the address of the server means,
use a loop back address,

use a inter process communication to determine whether the server means is running on a CPU that is the same CPU on which the client is running means in order to determine the network address, and

search a configuration record of the client means for the address of the server means; and

wherein:

one or more of said search procedures searches for the server means using the public key to identify the server means, and

the public key identifies a plurality of server computers having different network addresses.

49-50. (Cancelled)

51. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 48, wherein the backup search procedure is performed in parallel with searching for an address of the server means in a local system storage.

52. (Previously Presented) A method for a client computer to find a network address of a server computer, the method comprising:

performing a primary search procedure, the primary search procedure including searching a local storage of the client computer system for the network address of the server computer;

performing a backup search procedure if the network address of the server computer is not found using the primary search procedure, the backup search

procedure including searching a configuration record of the client computer system for the network address of the server computer; and

establishing a connection with the server computer using the network address found.

53. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 52, wherein:

the server computer is a password server computer having a public key that is an identifier of the server computer, and

the primary search procedure or the backup search procedure searches for the server computer using the public key to identify the server computer, said public key identifying a plurality of server computers having different network addresses.

54. (Previously Presented) A method for a client computer to find a network address of a server computer, the method comprising:

performing a primary search procedure;

performing a backup search procedure if the network address of the server computer is not found using the primary search procedure, said backup search procedure searching an authentication record for the network address of the server computer, and

establishing a connection with the server computer using the network address found.

55. (Previously Presented) A method for a client computer to find a network address of a server computer, the method comprising:

performing a primary search procedure;

performing a backup search procedure if the network address of the server computer is not found using the primary search procedure, said backup search procedure determining whether the server computer is running on a CPU that is the same CPU on which the client computer is running in order to determine the network address of the server computer; and

establishing a connection with the server computer using the network address found.

56. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 55, wherein the step of determining whether the server computer is running on the same CPU as the client computer comprises using a loop back address of the server computer.

57. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 55, wherein the step of determining whether the server computer is running on the same CPU of the client computer comprises sending out an inter process communication to the CPU.

58-64. (Cancelled)

65. (Previously Presented) A method for a client computer to find a network address of a password server computer having a public key, the method comprising:

searching for a network address of the server computer using a backup search procedure if the address of the server computer cannot be identified using a primary search procedure; and

establishing a connection with the server computer using the network address found,

wherein:

the public key is an identifier of the server computer,

the public key is shared by a plurality of server computers each respectively having different network addresses from each other, and

the backup search procedure searches for the network address of the server computer using the public key as an index to identify the server computer.